

WELCOME TO BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA

The Boston Harbor Islands national park area features 34 islands encompassing 1,600 acres and 35 miles of undeveloped coastline within 10 miles of downtown Boston. Hiking trails, beaches, ranger-led tours, camping, kayaking, nature walks, historic sites and daily programs are just minutes away on the ferry. Join visitors of every age and explore the beauty, tranquility, history and outdoor activities awaiting you on the Boston Harbor Islands.



minutes away.
worlds apart.



FERRY SCHEDULES

BOSTON ROUTE

Summer: June 19 – September 6

• Mondays through Thursdays

Ferries depart Long Wharf North for Georges and Spectacle Islands every hour from 9am until 5pm. Return trips start at Georges Island every hour on the half hour.

• Fridays through Sundays

Ferries depart Long Wharf North for Georges or Spectacle Islands every half-hour from 9am until 6pm. Return trips from both Georges and Spectacle Islands run hourly. Ferry tickets include an inter-island shuttle connecting both islands.

Spring and Fall: May 8 – June 18
& September 7 – October 11

Ferries depart Long Wharf North daily for Georges and Spectacle Islands every hour from 10am to 4pm.

HINGHAM AND QUINCY ROUTES

Summer: June 18 – September 6

- Ferries depart from Hingham, stopping in Hull, to go to Georges, Bumpkin, Grape, and Lovells Islands.
- Ferries depart from Quincy for Georges Island.

FERRY FARES

Adult \$14, Senior \$10, Child \$8, Children under 3 – Free
Family Four Pack \$39

Groups of 10 or more Adult \$12.50, Senior \$9, Child \$7

Buy tickets online or at the Long Wharf North Ticket Office.
Visit bostonharborislands.org or call 617-223-8666.

Boston ferries depart from Long Wharf North, near the Blue Line Aquarium "T" station, or Orange and Green Lines Haymarket "T" station. Inexpensive parking is available at the nearby Fan Pier and Courthouse area. Hingham ferries depart from Hingham Shipyard, and Quincy ferries depart from Fore River Shipyard. Inexpensive parking is available at both locations.



This message brought to you by the Boston Harbor Island Alliance, Department of Conservation and Recreation, and National Park Service.

Photo credits: Tom Kates, Mari Ryan, Pat King Powers, Emilie Kendall, Brook Zeisse, National Park Service
Brochure design: Cowen Design, cowen-design.com

A NATIONAL PARK AREA
BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS
minutes away. worlds apart.



VISIT
BOSTON
HARBOR
ISLANDS



50 FREE THINGS TO DO
bostonharborislands.org



ISLAND ADVENTURES

Georges Island

Take the ferry to this popular island and tour the National Historic Landmark Fort Warren, a 19th century granite stronghold used during the Civil War. Explore the ramparts or walk on the rocky shore. Large grassy fields and tables welcome picnickers. New for 2010 - stop by the **new visitor center** or **children's playground**, and eat at Jasper White's Summer Shack, which offers food and refreshments seven days a week. See the daily schedule for free ranger fort tours, performances, activities, and programs.

Playground donated by Northeast Interiors, Inc.

NEI
General Contracting

Spectacle Island

Swim on a sandy, life-guarded beach with rinse station and changing facilities, or hike the five miles of gravel paths to view the panoramic Boston skyline from the tallest point in the harbor. Check out our "green" visitor center to learn about the island history and nature. Jasper White's Summer Shack offers food and refreshments seven days a week. See the daily schedule for free ranger tours, performances, activities, and programs. Don't miss the Thursday night clambakes, reservations required.



MORE ISLANDS TO EXPLORE

Bumpkin Island Roam shell-filled beaches, wander through open fields, and hike trails leading to ruins of a farmhouse and old hospital. Camping available.

Grape Island Explore the grassy trails and lush greenery that offer tranquility and birdwatching on this woody camping isle.

Lovells Island Visit this camping favorite which features peaceful tidal pools, curved beaches and dunes, picnic areas, and the remains of Fort Standish.

- To camp on Bumpkin, Grape and Lovells Islands, plan your trip at bostonharborislands.org or call 617-223-8666 and speak to a ranger. Reserve your camping site at ReserveAmerica.com or call 877-422-6762.

Little Brewster Island - Boston Light Tour

Fridays-Sundays (June-Sept) Times vary
Climb the first and oldest lighthouse in the United States, meet the Coast Guard light keeper, and view Boston Harbor. A National Park Service ranger provides a narrated tour on this unforgettable three hour boat cruise. Buy tickets at bostonharborislands.org

Thompson Island Explore the island's rolling hills, meadows, beaches, and salt marsh on Sundays. This ferry departs from South Boston, EDIC Pier #10, and from Spectacle Island.

Islands to reach by car.

Webb Memorial Park
Deer Island

World's End
Nut Island

Private Boaters

Anchorage, overnight moorings, and slips at Spectacle Island Marina with a reservation. For boater info, visit bostonharborislands.org/goboating

Summer Shack Clambake & Sunset Cruise

Thursday evenings (June 17 - Sept 2)

Savor an authentic New England clambake on the porch of Spectacle Island. Jasper White's Summer Shack offers lobster, steamed corn, and corn on the cob to enjoy as you watch the sun set over Boston. \$56-\$75 per person, reservations required at spectacleclambake.com



Groups Customized tour packages are available for any type of group. Plan your group trip at bostonharborislands.org, or call 617-223-8666. Reserve group ferry seats at 617-222-6999.

Volunteer - Various Islands

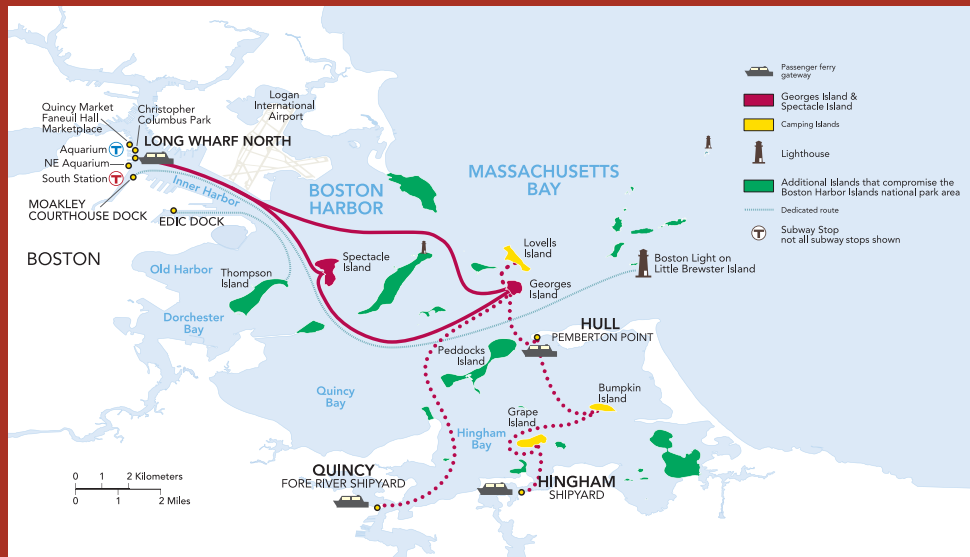
Stewardship Saturdays

(May 1 - Oct 16) 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Become a Park Guardian

Wednesdays (July 7 - Sept 29) 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Weekly volunteer opportunities for hands-on learning and habitat restoration on the islands. To make reservations go to bostonharborislands.org/volunteer



bostonharborislands.org





Boston Harbor Islands 2010 Calendar

FREE

Ongoing Activities



JUNE

Saturday, June 5
Pride Family Fun Day
Spectacle Island
 Celebrate Boston Pride week with a family day on the islands!

Sunday, June 6
Stories of the Islands: Snow in Summer
 Georges Island • 1:00 pm–2:00 pm
 Hear Edward Rowe Snow's famous tales of the Boston Harbor Islands. Co-produced by Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands

Sunday, June 13
Vintage Base Ball
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm
 Step into the 1860's and watch Civil War-era baseball games played at historic Fort Warren with original rules and uniforms.

Saturday, June 19
Berklee Rock Concert: Take No Prisoners I
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm–3:00 pm
 Be held captive at the fort, listening and dancing to some of Berklee College of Music's best rock bands.

Sunday, June 20
Take Your Dad on an Adventure
 Georges and Spectacle Islands
 Explore historic sites, watch wildlife, hike, picnic, fish, and swim on the islands.

Discover the World of Camping
 Lovells and Bumpkin Islands • 11:00 am–1:00 pm
 Learn and explore the basic skills and tools of camping outdoors in preparation of the Great American Backyard Campout.

Summer Shack's Hot Dog Eating Contest
 Spectacle Island • 2:00 pm
 Chow down at Summer Shack's hot dog eating contest. Free to watch, nominal fee to enter.

Saturday, June 26
Costumed Civil War Storytelling
 Georges Island • 12:15 pm and 2:00 pm
 Meet Dr. Charles Macgill, as he reminisces about his confinement as a Confederate political prisoner during the Civil War.
Haitian Music with Zili Misik
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm
 A cultural afternoon of Haitian, Brazilian, and West African music and dance.

Sunday, June 27
Celebrate Island Birds
 Spectacle and Thompson Islands • 11:00 am–3:00 pm
 Bird experts will identify shore birds of the Boston Harbor Islands. Bring your own binoculars!

Fishing Clinic
 Spectacle Island- 12:00 pm–2:00 pm
 No guarantee to catch a striper, but join a park ranger to fish off the pier.
 *Poles and bait provided. First come, first serve.

Stories of the Islands: Snow in Summer
 Georges Island 1:00 pm–2:00 pm [See June 6]

JULY

Sunday, July 4
Stories of the Islands: Snow in Summer
 Georges Island • 1:00 pm [See June 6]

Saturday, July 10
Dorchester Symphony Orchestra
 Georges Island • 1:00 pm–2:30 pm
 Pack a picnic and enjoy a classical seaside pops concert.

Summer Shack's Hot Dog Eating Contest
 Spectacle Island • 2:00 pm [See June 20]

Sunday, July 11
Vintage Base Ball
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm [See June 13]

Costumed Civil War Storytelling
 Georges Island • 12:15 pm and 2:00 pm [See June 26]

Fishing Clinic
 Spectacle Island • 12:00 pm–2:00 pm [See June 27]

Wednesday, July 14
Catch the Science Bug
 Spectacle Island • 11:00 am–2:00 pm
 Hands-on environmental activities for children of all ages.

Friday, July 16
Free Ferry Day
 Spectacle and Georges Islands
 Come to the islands for FREE. Thanks to the support of Highland Street Foundation.

Make a Spectacle of Yourself
 Spectacle Island and Long Wharf Pier • 11:00 pm–2:00 pm
 Elaborate face-painting for adults and kids.

Sunday, July 18
Orienteering on the Islands
 Thompson Island • 12:45 pm–3:15 pm
 Learn the basics of navigation with a map, compass or GPS. Meet at the Spectacle Island Visitor Center at 12:45 pm. Bring your own GPS.

Boston Bhangra Dancers
 Georges Island 1:00 pm–3:00 pm
 Join South Asian Indian dancers for a dance workshop following their performance.

"PEAK" in Your Park: Promoting Environmental Awareness
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm–2:00 pm
 Learn to have fun outdoors while keeping your environmental impact to a minimum.
 Co-sponsored by REI

Stories of the Islands: Snow in Summer
 Georges Islands • 1:00 pm–2:00 pm [See June 6]

Friday, July 23
Painting by the Sea
 Spectacle Island • 11:00 am–3:00 pm
 Watch artists paint the seascapes views of the islands. Bring your own materials to join in.
 Co-produced by Hull Lifesaving Museum and Artists for Humanity

Saturday, July 24
Berklee Rock Concert: Take No Prisoners II
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm–3:00 pm [See June 19]

Summer Shack's Iron Chef
 Spectacle Island • 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm
 Calling all Foodies! Watch Summer Shack chefs square off in a competition using island edibles.

Sunday, July 25
Climate Friendly Park
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm
 Explore Georges new green facility and learn how Boston Harbor Islands is becoming a Climate Friendly Park.

Sail on Spectacle
 Spectacle Island • 11:00 am–3:00 pm
 View classic antique boats of Massachusetts visiting Spectacle Island Marina.
 Co-produced by Spectacle Marina and Antique and Classic Boat Festival

Wednesday, July 28
ReadBoston Storymobile
 Spectacle Island • 12:30 pm–1:30 pm
 Pack a picnic and open your ears for a captivating story. Every child receives a FREE book. Sponsored by the City of Boston

Friday, July 30
Annual Art Encampment
 Bumpkin Island • 10:00 am– 5:00 pm
 Come and experience art in nature as nearly 40 artists colonize Bumpkin to create amazing art installations with only the materials they carry on their backs. Co-produced by Studio Soto and Berwick Research Institute

Saturday, July 31
Annual Art Encampment
 Bumpkin Island • 10:00 am– 5:00 pm

Island Yoga
 Bumpkin Island • 10:30 am–11:30 am
 A gentle hatha yoga class appropriate for all ages and abilities. Bring a mat or towel.

Geology Rocks
 Spectacle Island • 11:00 am–2:00 pm
 Discover how geology "rocks" with hands-on activities and demonstrations.

AUGUST

Sunday August 1
Annual Art Encampment
 Bumpkin Island • 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Toe Jam Puppet Band: The Green Show
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm
 Through music, song, and puppetry children will learn about the importance of recycling and how everyone must keep the earth clean.

Saturday, August 7
A Bug's Life
 Spectacle Island • 12:15 pm–2:00 pm
 Join scientist Jessica Ryken in collecting and examining bugs native to the Boston Harbor islands. Recommended for ages 10 and up (and the non-squeamish).

Anikai Dance
 Georges Island • 1:00 pm
 Enjoy this internationally acclaimed contemporary dance troop who uses inspiration from around the globe and the environment.

Sunday, August 8
Vintage Base Ball
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm [See June 13]

Friday, August 13
Painting by the Sea
 Spectacle Island • 11:00 am–3:00 pm [See July 23]

Saturday, August 14
Native American Summer Festival
 Georges Island • 10:00 am–5:00 pm
 Celebration of traditional & contemporary cultures of Northeastern Native American peoples, including games, music and dance, crafts, storytelling and children's activities.

Bee Monitoring
 Spectacle Island • 1:00 pm–2:00 pm
 See how the busy bees of the islands are helping rangers monitor climate change.

Sunday, August 15
Native American Summer Festival
 Georges Island • 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Wednesday, August 18
ReadBoston Storymobile
 Spectacle Island • 12:30 pm–1:30 pm [See July 28]

Friday, August 20
"PEAK" in Your Park: Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm–2:00 pm [See July 18]

Saturday, August 21
Berklee Rock Concert: Take No Prisoners III
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm–3:00 pm [See June 19]



Picnic with the John and Abigail Adams Grape Island • 12:00 pm–1:30 pm
 Take a boat ride and bring a picnic lunch to Grape Island where John and Abigail Adams will read their fascinating letters to each other. Take the 11:40 am public ferry from the Hingham Shipyard. Co-produced by Adams National Historical Park

Sunday, August 22
Snow in Summer Celebration
 Georges Island • 11:00 pm–3:00 pm
 Celebrate the birthday of famed Boston Island storyteller Edward Rowe Snow with storytelling and a special visit from Santa. Co-produced by Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands and Friends of the Flying Santa

Costumed Civil War Storytelling
 Georges Island • 12:15 pm and 2:00 pm [See June 26]

Saturday, August 28
Summer Shack's Hot Dog Eating Contest
 Spectacle Island • 2:00 pm [See June 20]

Vintage Base Ball
 Georges Island • 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm
 Watch and join Civil War-era base ball games between Boston Harbor Island park rangers and Essex vintage base ball club.

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 17
Painting by the Sea
 Spectacle Islands • 11:00 am–3:00 pm [See July 23]

Saturday, September 18
Summer Shack's Hot Dog Eating Contest
 Spectacle Island • 2:00 pm [See June 20]

Saturday, September 25
Sixth Annual Boston Harbor Islands Regatta
 Georges and Spectacle Islands • 10:00 am–4:00 pm
 The largest sailing race in Boston Harbor with 100 boats of all sizes. Special visit from the Friendship of Salem.

Sunday, September 26
Celebrate Island Birds
World's End • 11:00 am–3:00 pm
 Bird experts will guide walking tours over two islands. Bring your binoculars!

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 2
Harbor Fall Fest
 Webb Memorial Park • 12:00 pm–4:00 pm
 Celebrate autumn with a variety of harvest activities for all ages.

Summer Shack's Chowder Cook Off
 Spectacle Island • 12:00 pm–2:00 pm
 Sample and vote on Boston's best New England-style chowders.

Sunday, October 3
Summer Shack's Oyster Shucking Contest
 Spectacle Island • 12:00 pm
 Watch the experts compete to see who's the fastest oyster shucker in Boston.

Saturday, October 9
Summer Shack's Hot Dog Eating Contest
 Spectacle Island • 2:00 pm [See June 20]



Printed on recycled paper.

PERFORMANCES
 Plays in the Park at the Fort Warren Stage
Fridays (June 25 - August 27)
 Georges Island

Performances at 11:30 am and 1:00 pm [45 min.] Audience participation welcome among the young and young at heart! Generously Sponsored by Dominion Resources

The History and Adventures of Tom Thumb presented by City Stage
Friday, June 25, July 9, 23, August 6
 Hear the story of a boy who was "no bigger than his father's thumb."

Folktales Near & Far presented by City Stage
Friday, July 2, 16, 30, August 27
 Five folktales from around the world. Grandfather Sun; The Tale of the Three Little Pigs; Why Rat Came First; The Wings of the Butterfly.

Pirates of Pencils by Kidstock
"The Adventures of Captain Blackboard"
Friday, August 13 and 20
 Learn the "academics" of becoming a pirate in this "back to school" themed interactive parody on THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE.

Music in the Park on Spectacle featuring ensembles from Berklee College of Music and guitarist David Ehle
Sunday (June 27 - September 17) • 11:00 pm–4:00 pm
 Spectacle Island
 Relax on the Spectacle Island porch to the sounds of big bands, folk music, swing, and jazz ensembles.

RANGER TOURS & PROGRAMS
Georges Island Tours
Mon–Thurs 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm
Fri–Sun 10:30 am, 12:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm

Take a guided tour of Fort Warren. Come out to Georges Island and re-live history and have a chance to meet Confederate and Union soldiers.

Spectacle Island Tours
Mon–Thurs 10:30 am, 12:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm
Fri–Sun 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm
 Take a guided tour of the island. Common program themes include renewable energy and green technology, social and industrial history of the island, plant identification, and bird spotting.

Thompson Island Treks: Salt Marsh Walk
Sundays (June 21–September 6), 12:45 pm–3:15 pm
 (via Spectacle Island)
 Explore the salt marshes and natural beauty of Thompson Island on a guided walking tour. Tour meets at the Spectacle Island Visitor Center.

Kayaking at Spectacle Island
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (July and August)
 Join a ranger for a half-hour spin in the Boston Harbor. *First come, first serve - weather permitting, determined by island ranger. Space limited. Ages 12 and up.

Kayaking at Grape Island
Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays
 Paddle around Grape and Slate Islands with an experienced park ranger. *First come, first serve - weather permitting, determined by island ranger. Space limited. Ages 12 and up.

Camping Island Tours
 Grape, Bumpkin and Lovells Islands
 Park rangers give guided and themed tours such as Tidepooling, Wild Edibles, Wake Up and Bird-Watch, or MicroWilderness Explorers and evening programs such as Star Gazing and Dots, Dashes, Dits and Dahs: Morse Code on the camping islands. See daily listing on islands.

Fishing Clinic
Thursdays (July and August) 1:00 pm–2:00 pm
 Spectacle Island
 No guarantee to catch a striper, but join a park ranger and fish off the pier. *Poles and bait provided. First come, first serve - weather permitting, determined by island staff.

Toddler Tuesdays
Tuesdays (June 22 – Sept 1) Times Vary
 Spectacle and Grape Islands
 Meet up with other moms, dads, and caretakers for a Stroller Stride on Spectacle, or Groovin' on Grape fitness activities with a guide. *See bostonharborislands.org for details.

Island Yoga
 Every other Saturday (June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, August 7, August 21) • 10:30 am–11:30 am
 Spectacle Island
 A gentle hatha yoga class appropriate for all ages and abilities. Bring a mat or towel. Meet at Spectacle Island Visitor Center. First come, first serve.

SELF GUIDED ISLAND EXPLORATION
 Self by ranger stations to pickup trail maps, field and nature activity guides, and Junior Ranger materials.

Island Cache
Ongoing all summer
 Discover the islands with your GPS. This activity will guide you to some of the park's cultural, historical and natural resources. GPS available at visitor center.

Go Fly a Kite
 Spectacle Island
Saturdays (1:30pm–2:30pm)
 One of the city's best kite flying destinations! Bring or make your own. Materials provided. First come, first serve. One kite per family.

Get your Department of Conservation and Recreation, and National Park Service Park Passport stamped at Georges and Spectacle Visitor Centers.



Visit bostonharborislands.org for more information